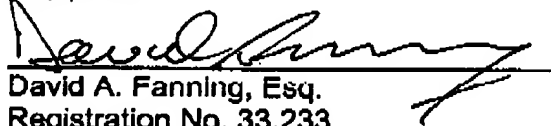


REMARKS

Applicant hereby cancels certain claims without prejudice, amends other claims as specified above, and adds several new claims in order to focus the protection sought. Applicant is making this amendment prior to receiving an office action on the merits. Please contact the undersigned with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to number (703) 872-9306, attention Examiner Thomas J. Druan, on the date shown below.

Date: October 7, 2004
David A. Fanning